

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SMS-02 ACDA-12 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /090 W  
-----123797 080249Z /15

R 070753Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5252  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USLO PEKING  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18659

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CH, UR, PEPR  
SUBJECT: ALEXANDROV ARTICLE RESPONDS TO HSU HSIANG  
CHIEN'S RED FLAG ARTICLE

1. ASSUME DEPT HAS FULL FBIS TEXT OF AUGUST 5 ALEXANDROV  
ARTICLE. FOLLOWING POINTS ABOUT ARTICLE STRIKE US AS  
NOTEWORTHY:

-- ARTICLE IS PEGGED TO PRC DEFENSE MINISTERS HSU  
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HSIANG-CHIEN'S RECENT RED FLAG ARTICLE. SOVIET ASIAN  
SPECIALIST (FAR EASTERN INSTITUTE) N. VASILIEV TOLD  
EMBOFF AUGUST 7 THAT ALEXANDROV PIECE IS RESPONSE TO  
HSU'S RECENT ANTI-SOVIET STATEMENTS. HE OBSERVED THAT  
PRC FOREIGN POLICY HAS BECOME EVEN MORE ANTI-SOVIET  
IN RECENT MONTHS. HSU'S ARTICLE WAS A HIGH-LEVEL  
STATEMENT MADE DURING A "COMPLICATED PERIOD". THE

ALEXANDROV ARTICLE IS AN AUTHORITATIVE RESPONSE FROM THE SOVIET UNION;

-- ARTICLE, FOLLOWING BREZHNEV'S MINSK COMMENTS ON CHINA, AND APPEARING OVER THE WEEKEND WITH POLITBURO

MEMBER ANDROPOV'S COMMENTS ON CHINA (SEPTTEL), REFLECTS SOVIET DECISION TO RAISE AND MAINTAIN SOVIET CONCERNS ABOUT ALLEGED COLLUSION WITH CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY AT A HIGH AND MORE AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL. IN THIS CONNECTION, WEEKEND PRESS CARRIED A RASH OF ANTI-PRC ARTICLES WHICH INCLUDED ANDROPOV'S WARNING; CRITICISM OF U.S. FOR DISCRIMINATING AGAINST THE USSR AND FAVORING CHINA IN OIL TECHNOLOGY EXPORT CONTROLS (AUGUST 6 INTERNATIONAL WEEK COLUMN IN PRAVDA, ALSO REPORTED SEPTTEL); AND WARNINGS AGAINST THE SALE OF WESTERN AND JAPANESE ARMS AND MILITARY-RELATED TECHNOLOGY (INCLUDING US C-141) TO THE PRC (AUG. 4 NOVOYE VREMYA);

-- ARTICLE PRECEEDS HUA KUO-FENG'S TRIPS TO ROMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA LATER THIS MONTH AND COINCIDES WITH SINO-JAPANESE PFT NEGOTIATIONS. (WE HEAR CEAUSESCU IS ARRIVING AUGUST 7 FOR TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERSHIP IN CRIMEA.) SOVIETS MAY CONSIDER THAT ARTICLE'S AUTHORITATIVE REITERATION OF SOVIET SENSITIVITIES OVER PEKING'S ANTI-SOVIET OBJECTIVES MAY BE USEFUL  
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AT A TIME WHEN CHINESE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH BUCHAREST, BELGRADE AND TOKYO;

-- ALTHOUGH SUBSTANCE OF ARTICLE SEEMS UNEXCEPTIONAL, IT APPEARS THAT STRONGLY-WORDED "MESSAGE" IN PENULTIMATE PARAGRAPH IS ALSO NOTEWORTHY: "ALL THOSE IN PEKING WHO MAKE CALLS FOR WORLD WAR AND ALL WHO SEEK TO INTIMIDATE THE SOVIET PEOPLE SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS FRIENDS HAVE SUFFICIENT FORCE AND MEANS TO PROTECT THEIR STATE INTERESTS AND PEACEFUL WORK FROM ANY ENCROACHMENTS." TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, TEXTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**SAS ID:** 1820146  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALEXANDROV ARTICLE RESPONDS TO HSU HSIANG CHIEN'S RED FLAG ARTICLE  
**TAGS:** PEPR, SOPN, CH, UR, (HSU HSIANG CHIEN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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